

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

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O 171730Z OCT 73

FM AMCONGEN STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1891

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: AEMR

REF: STATE 204191 AND 204192

DEPT PASS EUCOM RPT DEPT PASS EUCOM

SUBJ: EVACUATION NONESSENTIAL CIVILIANS

FOR MIDEAST TASK FORCE AND WLG FROM CHAIRMAN, ELG

1. WITH MOST REPLIES TO REFTELS AT HAND, IT APPARENT
FSPOSTS BELIEVE LOCAL SECURITY AMERICAN CITIZENS
REASONABLY ASSURED FOR MOMENT AND FEW POSTS WISH TO RISK
ANTICIPATED LOCAL POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS OF USG WARNING
TO AMERICANS NOT TO TRAVEL TO SPECIFIC COUNTRIES.

2. NEVERTHELESS, TELEGRAMS AVAILABLE AND SITUATION
REPORTS BY 171200Z OCT ALSO INDICATE DURATION OF WAR IS
GROWING, FULL PUBLIC EFFECTS OF US ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL
ONLY BEGINNING TO BE FELT, AND ANTI-US SENTIMENT ON RISE.
WE NOTE THIS PARTICULARLY IN BEIRUT, KUWAIT, AND
ALGIERS AND EVEN SAFEHAVEN TEHRAN. WE FURTHER NOTE GROWING SPAN-
ISH SENSITIVITIES IN REGARD TO REFUELING US AIRCRAFT IN MEDITERR-
ANEAN OPERATIONS AND STRONG TURKISH VIEW ON USE OF BASES THERE.
FURTHERMORE, BATTLEFIELD DEVELOPMENTS COULD BRING SIGNIFICANT
REACTION AGAINST US AT ANY TIME. IF ISRAELIS MAKE GAINS,
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US WILL BE BLAMED. IF ARABS FAIL OR FALTER, THIS TOO
WILL BE PUT ON OUR DOORSTEP.

3. WITHOUT SECOND-GUESSING ANY PRINCIPAL OFFICER, WE SEE

LITTLE CHANCE THAT SECURITY OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OR THEIR ORDERLY EVACUATION PROSPECTS WILL IMPROVE IN DAYS AHEAD. RATHER, INDICATORS POINT IN OTHER DIRECTION. AT BEST, WE PROJECT UNEVEN PICTURE WITH SECURITY OF AMERICANS IN JEOPARDY AT UNEVEN RATE AND PROBABLY IN UNEXPECTED PLACES.

4. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT CONSIDER FOLLOWING STEPS. OBJECTIVES ARE: TO REDUCE RISKS TO AMERICANS, TO AVOID SINGLING OUT ANY INDIVIDUAL ME COUNTRY, TO MAXIMIZE CIVILIAN MEANS OF DEPARTURE, AND TO SPREAD ARRIVALS OF AMERICANS IN SAFER CITIES RATHER THAN BUNCHING UP UNDER HASTY EVACUATION:

A. DEPARTMENT DIRECT AT ONCE QUOTE ORDERLY REDUCTION UNQUOTE OF NUMBERS OF AMERICANS IN NORTH AFRICA AND ME. NO COUNTRIES TO BE NAMED. THIS ACTION TO BE A REGIONAL EFFORT.

B. THAT POSTS BE INSTRUCTED TO ADVISE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ADVANCE OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF ABOVE AND AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST THEIR ASSISTANCE IN HELPING AMERICANS ARRANGE LOCAL EXODUS.

C. AMERICANS TO BE REDUCED TO QUOTE ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL UNQUOTE IN EACH COUNTRY POSSIBLY WITH SOME PLANNING TARGET OF CUTTING IN-COUNTRY NUMBERS BY FIFTY PERCENT AS WORKING FIGURE. PERMISSIVE FORMULA COULD BE USED RATHER THAN STRAIGHT-JACKETING EACH POST.

D. THAT WASHINGTON SPOKESMAN GIVE ABOVE INFO TO PRESS SO THAT EMPHASIS CAN BE PUT ON "PRECAUTIONARY NATURE" AND "ORDERLY PLANNING" OF EXERCISE AND SO THAT EACH PRINCIPAL OFFICER CAN USE GENERAL REDUCTION US CITIZEN PRESENCE TO SHOW THAT US HAS NOT SINGLED OUT ANY ONE COUNTRY FOR "DISCRIMINATORY" TREATMENT FOR SOME ULTERIOR PURPOSE. WE ASSUME THAT FS POSTS, AT LEAST, WOULD REATIN FULLY VISIBLE COMPLEMENT OF PERSONNEL STO THAT ME COUNTRIES NEED NOT DRAW EXAGGERATED CONCLUSIONS US
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INTENTIONS.

5. IN EVENT ME SITUATION TRENDS TOWARD POLARIZATION AND/OR SECURITY DETERIORATES, REDUCTION NUMBERS US CITIZENS NOW WOULD REDUCE RISK TO THEM AS INDIVIDUALS AND GREATLY SIMPLIFY US OPERATIONS SHOULD EVACUATION BE REQUIRED UNDER ADVERSE CONDITIONS.

6. USEUCOM CONCURS.
RUCHTI

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED EUCOM.

SECRET

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